

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ABU DH 00447 230656Z

14

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02

CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 L-03 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 EUR-12 /111 W

----- 084528

R 221017Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3950

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 0447

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD BEXP TC

SUBJ: UAE IMPORT STATISTICS.

1. ABU DHABI CUSTOMS DEPT. HAS FINALLY RELEASED THE EMIRATE'S OFFICIAL IMPORT DATA FOR 1974, FILLING OUT THE GAPS IN UAE DATA. TOTAL UAE IMPORTS JUMPED 111 PERCENT OVER 1973 TO REACH DOLLARS 1.8 BILLION IN 1974. PRELIMINARY DATA FROM THE UAE CURRENCY BOARD AND THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES OF DUBAI AND ABU DHABI INDICATES THAT THIS RATE OF GROWTH WAS NOT MAINTAINED IN 1975. TOTAL IMPORTS ROSE TO ABOUT DOLLARS 2.4 BILLION IN 1975 AN INCREASE OF 34 PERCENT. IF THIS GROWTH RATE CONTINUES, UAE IMPORTS SHOULD REACH DOLLARS 3.1 BILLION 1976.

2. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT IMPORT GROWTH WILL EXCEED 34 PERCENT IN 1976. IN 1975, UAE OIL SECTOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS WERE 4.9 BILLION, AN INCREASE OF ONLY 13 PERCENT OVER 1973. IN 1976, EXCHANGE EARNINGS ARE EXPECTED TO RISE BY OVER 30 PERCENT TO 7.1 BILLION DOLLARS. THIS CAN ONLY FURTHER STIMULATE DOMESTIC DEMAND.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ABU DH 00447 230656Z

3. U.S. EXPORTS IN 1974 INCREASED BY 73 PERCENT TO ABOUT

233 MILLION DOLLARS AND MARKET SHARE FELL FROM 16 PERCENT TO 13 PERCENT. ALTHOUGH BOTH BRITISH AND JAPANESE EXPORTS ROSE BY 95 PERCENT AND 96 PERCENT RESPECTIVELY, THE MARKET SHARES OF THESE TWO COUNTRIES ALSO FELL. THE U.S., U.K., AND JAPAN TRADITIONALLY SUPPLIED OVER HALF THE UAE MARKET. THE THREE COUNTRIES' MARKET SHARE FELL TO 46 PERCENT IN 1974. FRENCH AND WEST GERMAN EXPORTS ALSO DID NOT KEEP PACE WITH DEMAND IN 1974.

4. FASTEST RATES OF GROWTH IN 1974 WERE ACHIEVED BY LARGE NUMBER OF WHAT WERE IN THE PAST MORE MARGINAL SUPPLIERS. IN WESTERN EUROPE, SPAIN, ITALY, AUSTRIA, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, AND FINLAND DOUBLED AND IN MOST CASES TRIPLED THE VALUE OF THEIR EXPORTS. EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ALSO RECORDED ENORMOUS RATES OF GROWTH. IMPORTS FROM THE USSR, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, EAST GERMANY, HUNGARY, RUMANIA, AND YUGOSLAVIA INCREASED BY 310 PERCENT WITH EAST GERMANY (589 PERCENT) AND RUMANIA (670 PERCENT) LEADING THE GROUP.

5. LOCAL IMPORTERS OFTEN COMPLAIN THAT THE US IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY INTERESTED IN THE UAE MARKET. THE RESPONSE OF MANY LARGE US FIRMS WOULD TEND TO CONFIRM THIS BELIEF, BUT IT CANNOT BE THE WHOLE STORY. AS THE TRADE FIGURES INDICATE, THE MARKET SHARES OF ALL THE UAE'S TRADITIONAL EXPORTS DECREASED SUGGESTING INELASTICITIES OF SUPPLY RATHER THAN MERE LACK OF INTEREST. WITH IMPORT DEMAND GROWING SO RAPIDLY, IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT LOCAL IMPORTERS TURNED TO ALTERNATIVE SUPPLIERS.

STERNER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORT DATA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ABUDH00447  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760066-0966  
**From:** ABU DHABI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760225/aaaaawez.tel  
**Line Count:** 91  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** castelsl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 JUL 2004 by schwenja>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by castelsl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UAE IMPORT STATISTICS.  
**TAGS:** ETRD, BEXP, TC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006